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## EDITORIAL

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In the deaths of Dean Nathaniel Southgate Shaler, of Harvard, and of Professor Israel Cook Russell, of the University of Michigan, American geology has lost two of its best-known and most popular writers on geology, as well as two of its most active and attractive personalities. The closeness of succession of these calamities, and the singular similarity of the fatal illnesses, give keenness to our regret. It is our hope to publish, in an early number of the *Journal*, full sketches of the services of these two men to our science. Awaiting the publication of these sketches, we wish to voice now the universal sorrow, not only of geologists and educators, but of the multitudes of intelligent people who have read with profit and delight the sketches of earth-lore that have come so freely from their fluent pens.

T. C. C.

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Because of business engagements which will take him out of the state for some time to come, Dr. Frank G. Wilder has resigned his position as State Geologist of Iowa, and has been succeeded by his honored predecessor, Professor Samuel Calvin. Changes in the administrations of state surveys are to be deprecated generally, except when inefficient men retire; but in this case the parties most immediately concerned have worked together so intimately and in such perfect accord that the transition will be accomplished without even momentary interruption in the work of the survey, just as it did when Dr. Wilder succeeded Professor Calvin. Since a change in the administration was necessary because of Dr. Wilder's absence, both Iowa and the science of geology are to be congratulated that Professor Calvin is willing to resume the duties of an office which he filled so long and so well, and from which he voluntarily retired some years ago.

R. D. S.